

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. A method for changing alpha levels of a displayable object,  
said method comprising the steps of:

determining an alpha level to represent a status of a non-  
interactive computing task; and

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graphically adjusting a transparency of at least a selected  
portion of a displayable object associated with said non-  
interactive computing task according to said alpha level, such  
that said status of said non-interactive computing task is  
15 displayed by said associated displayable object.

2. The method for changing alpha levels of a displayable object  
according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

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graphically displaying concurrently a plurality of  
displayable objects independent of whether any of said plurality  
of displayable objects is active.

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3. The method for changing alpha levels of a displayable object  
according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

detecting said status for at least one from among usage of a  
processor, memory, a sound card, a graphics card, a storage  
device, and network bandwidth.

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4. The method for changing alpha levels of a displayable object  
according to claim 1, said method further comprising the steps  
of:

determining a color level to represent said non-interactive computing task; and

graphically adjusting said color with said transparency according to said color level of said at least said selection portion of said displayable object associated with said non-interactive computing task.

5. The method for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 1, said step of determining an alpha level further comprising the step of:

determining said alpha level according to a user preference for said transparency associated with said non-interactive computing task.

6. The method for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 1, said step of determining an alpha level further comprising the step of:

determining said alpha level, wherein said resulting transparency is uniform within said displayable object.

7. The method for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 1, said step of determining an alpha level further comprising the step of:

determining said alpha level, wherein said resulting transparency oscillates within said displayable object according to a frequency spectrum of a sound intended for output in association with said displayable object.

8. The method for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

presenting a user within an interface for selecting transparency preferences, wherein said transparency preferences are utilized for determining said alpha level.

9. The method for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 1, said step of graphically adjusting a transparency further comprising the step of:

only graphically adjusting a transparency of transparency adjustable sections of said displayable object within said selection portion of said displayable object.

10. The method for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 1, said step of graphically adjusting a transparency further comprising the step of:

graphically adjusting a transparency of said displayable object comprising at least one of an application window, an icon, a video representation, and a graphical representation.

11. The method for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

graphically adjusting a transparency of at least said selected portion of a displayable object associated with a progress of an installation program.

12. A system for changing alpha levels of a displayable object, said system comprising:

a graphical user interface for displaying a displayable object;

means for determining an alpha level to represent a status of a non-interactive computing task; and

means for graphically adjusting a transparency of at least a selected portion of said displayable object associated with said non-interactive computing task according to said alpha level.

13. The system for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 12, said system further comprising:

means for graphically displaying concurrently a plurality of displayable objects within said graphical user interface independent of whether any of said plurality of displayable objects is active.

14. The system for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 12, said system further comprising:

means for detecting said status for at least one from among usage of a processor, memory, a sound card, a graphics card, a storage device, and network bandwidth.

15. The system for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 12, said system further comprising:

means for determining a color level to represent said non-interactive computing task; and

means for graphically adjusting said color with said transparency according to said color level of said at least said

selection portion of said displayable object associated with said non-interactive computing task.

16. The system for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 12, said means for determining an alpha level further comprising:

means for determining said alpha level according to a user preference for said transparency associated with said non-interactive computing task.

17. The system for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 12, said means for determining an alpha level further comprising:

means for determining said alpha level, wherein said resulting transparency is uniform within said displayable object.

18. The system for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 12, said means for determining an alpha level further comprising:

means for determining said alpha level, wherein said resulting transparency oscillates within said displayable object according to a frequency spectrum of a sound intended for output in association with said displayable object.

19. The system for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 12, said system further comprising:

means for presenting a user within an interface for selecting transparency preferences, wherein said transparency preferences are utilized for determining said alpha level.

20. The system for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 12, said means for graphically adjusting a transparency further comprising:

means for only graphically adjusting a transparency of transparency adjustable sections of said displayable object within said selection portion of said displayable object.

21. The system for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 12, said means for graphically adjusting a transparency further comprising:

means for graphically adjusting a transparency of said displayable object comprising at least one of an application window, an icon, a video representation, and a graphical representation.

22. The system for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 12, said system further comprising:

means for graphically adjusting said transparency of at least said selected portion of a displayable object associated with a progress of an installation program.

23. A program for changing alpha levels of a displayable object, residing on a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means, said program comprising:

means for computing an alpha level to represent a status of a non-interactive computing task; and

means for controlling a graphical adjustment to a transparency of at least a selected portion of a displayable object associated with said non-interactive computing task according to said alpha level.

24. The program for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 23, said program further comprising:

means for concurrently controlling a graphical display of a plurality of displayable objects independent of whether any of said plurality of displayable objects is active.

25. The program for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 23, said program further comprising:

means for detecting said status for at least one from among usage of a processor, memory, a sound card, a graphics card, a storage device, and network bandwidth.

26. The program for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 23, said program further comprising:

means for determining a color level to represent said non-interactive computing task; and

means for controlling a graphical adjustment of said color with said transparency according to said color level of said at least said selection portion of said displayable object associated with said non-interactive computing task.

27. The program for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 23, said program further comprising:

means for determining said alpha level according to a user preference for said transparency associated with said non-interactive computing task.

5 28. The program for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 23, said program further comprising:

means for determining said alpha level, wherein said resulting transparency is uniform within said displayable object.

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29. The program for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 23, said program further comprising:

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means for determining said alpha level, wherein said resulting transparency oscillates within said displayable object according to a frequency spectrum of a sound intended for output in association with said displayable object.

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30. The program for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 23, said program further comprising:

means for controlling output of a user interface for selecting transparency preferences, wherein said transparency preferences are utilized for determining said alpha level.

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31. The program for changing alpha levels of a displayable object according to claim 23, said program further comprising:

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means for controlling graphical adjustment of only a transparency of transparency adjustable sections of said displayable object within said selection portion of said displayable object.



means for controlling graphical adjustment of a transparency of said displayable object comprising at least one of an application window, an icon, a video representation, and a graphical representation.

means for controlling graphical adjustment of a transparency of at least said selected portion of a displayable object associated with a progress of an installation program.